



Higgins Lake Property Owners AssociationSM

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President: Charlene Cornell, **Vice Pres:** Greg Semack, **Secretary:** Herb Weatherly, **Treasurer:** Bruce Carleton
Directors: Wayne Brooks, Jack Cornell, Curt DeVoe, Becky Gibson, Bob McKellar, John Ogren, Fred Swinehart

Higgins Lake Property Owners Association Board Meeting Minutes December 20, 2021

The meeting was called to order by President Charlene Cornell at 9:02 A.M.

Board Members Present: Charlene Cornell, Greg Semack, Bruce Carleton, Herb Weatherly, Wayne Brooks, Bob McKellar, Curt DeVoe, John Ogren, and Fred Swinehart. Becky Gibson and Jack Cornell were absent.

Agenda: No changes.

President's Comments: Charlene wished everyone a very merry and safe holiday season and a healthy New Year, especially for the lake! Charlene added that a course, "Intro to the Lakes," is available to HLPOA members at no cost. Register at MSU Extension.

November Minutes: The November 15, 2021, Minutes were accepted as written.

Committee Reports:

Secretary/Office: None.

Treasurer's Report: Bruce reviewed the November 30, 2021, financial statements and then spent some time going over the first draft of the 2022 Budget. As has been done in the past, once the direct year-end financial statements are completed, Bruce will update the 2022 Budget and present it to the Board at the January meeting for final input and approval.

Membership & Communication: Wayne shared that we have 88 members, of which 8 are new. Wayne thanked Herb, Charlene, and Susan Brooks for their help in preparing the recent bulk membership mailing. Wayne also thanked Charlene for coordinating the membership printing needs with Sally Voorheis at the Dealers Supply Company. Last, Wayne set a January 10th due date for articles for the Winter newsletter.

Riparian Committee:

John stated there was no progress to report on linear dock specifications or PA 56 road end signs.

John added that the Riparian Committee is working on a draft plan for a Boat Launch Management System. This is a long-term project that is motivated by the DNR's lack of action and intention to improve current practices which have resulted in the entry of four invasive species into Higgins Lake. This project will be timed such that it does not deflect attention away from the GLUA sewer project.

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Environmental Committee: Fred reported the following:

Higgins Lake Clean Water Assistance Fund:

The Higgins Lake Foundation has generously offered the use of a dormant 501(c)(3) registration, that they have kept in reserve, for the use of the GLUA for this fund. We are working with the HLF and the GLUA to define the operating agreements for this fund. Examples of such agreements from other similar benevolent funds have been forwarded to the team looking at these items.

Dewey Road's Big Creek Culvert Replacement:

The replacement of the perched culvert on Dewey Road has been successfully completed. The final invoicing from Huron Pines to the supporting Foundations have been received and will be paid before yearend.

Albemarle Road's Little Creek Culvert Replacement: This collapsed culvert inhibits passage of aquatic species less than 100' upstream from the lake. Like Big Creek, it has historically supported significant spawning runs of perch, trout, and other fish, particularly in the spring. Josh Leisen of Huron Pines and Roger Saxton of the Roscommon County Road Commission have considered the costs to replace the collapsed culvert using similar technology to that used successfully on Big Creek. As an early estimate, they think the costs would be similar to the Big Creek job, perhaps around \$40,000 total. Partial funding from Huron Pines, Roscommon County, and Lyon Township will be sought. Given the same local organizational support as for the Big Creek project, perhaps contributions of \$7,500 from HLPOA would cover our share of the costs for this project. This project is already planned for next summer's RCRC activity. The EGLE permits have already been secured. Once organizational support is authorized, detailed engineering would begin.

2021 Water Quality Sampling and Analysis of Near Shore Waters: We have completed our fourth year of student sampling and analyzing the near shore waters of our lake for chemical and biological contamination. A summary report for this data has been posted on our website. The averaged data of near shore testing shows a very troubling rise in both the total and escherichia coliform bacterial populations. The program will continue in 2022.

In-stream Habitat Improvements for Big Creek: We are working with the DNR, EGLE and the Big Creek Lane Association to follow the second recommendation from Mark Tonello of DNR fisheries. This recommendation was for volunteers to hand place in-stream wood and stone structures to enhance the habitat for brook trout. We are preparing a plan for review and approval. This would be an activity organized and carried out next summer by volunteers. Some funds for materials may be requested as the plan develops.

Other Possible Project Activity: Some additional programs are being considered:

1. Health Department Survey of Big Creek
2. Baseline study of algal presence in the lake.
3. A "Trash Bash" MRWA sponsored event in the fall.

PAC: Greg reports that the HLPAC is still looking at various options of using a lobbying firm for the future and are open to helping to lobby for the sewer project. As yet, no direction is set, and no money is being paid from our organization for a monthly retainer.

Greg has spoken with Kim Morley who intends to be a candidate for State Representative in the fall. Other candidates have shown interest and we will be evaluating all candidates at a later date.

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HLSIO: Greg reported that the HLSIO board met on 11-18. They talked about the research report where Helisoma snails were found to be a very small cause of SI. The report found that Stagnicola snail cercariae were 40 times more likely to cause swimmer's itch than the Helisoma parasite. This is important for the following reasons.

1. There have been questions in the past about whether it was important to continue relocation of Common Mergansers given that other SI parasite may be involved in each lake. This study should prove that merganser parasites are still the greatest contributor to SI and that lakes that have ignored the merganser relocation option were ignoring a solution to most of their SI problem.

2. More lakes may now be inclined to use merganser relocation and if so, it likely protects our future ability to continue to do so.

We will be renewing the contract with SIS for 2022 with very little change from that which we've used in 2021. We've had some preliminary discussions and expect to be finished with the details within the next month.

Last winter we made some extensive changes to the HLSIO website. This winter we will make very few. If anyone wants to make any suggestion, please let me know what your thoughts are. Any comments are appreciated.

We have a board opening for one more person. If anyone knows someone who may be a good fit, please let me know. We feel no urgency to fill this position and may wait until spring unless someone currently unknown to us turns up.

We sent out our Year-end update letter to HLSIO supporters over the weekend and intend for Kathleen to forward it on to HLPOA members today.

Ongoing Business: Charlene reported that attorney Bill Carey stated that regarding the AMVETS litigation, an Entry of Judgement is scheduled for January 6, 2022.

A discussion was held about the sewer project. Charlene added that the next GLUA public meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2022, at 9:00 A.M. at the Gerrish Township Hall.

New Business: Charlene shared that our fundraiser vintage note cards have been printed and are ready to mail.

Our lease agreement is due to be signed for 2022. Herb will sign and deliver to our landlord. Thank- you Herb!

Adjournment: Greg moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Bruce. The meeting adjourned at 11:22 A.M.

The next meeting will be January 17, 2022, at 9:00 A.M.

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HIGGINS LAKE PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2021
PRELIMINARY

ASSETS

Current Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 101,137
Accounts Receivable	<u>\$ -</u>
Total Current Assets	101,137
Other Assets	
Rent Security Deposit	200
Prepaid Expense	-
Restricted Cash	<u>9,073</u>
Total Other Assets	<u>9,273</u>
Total Assets	<u><u>\$ 110,410</u></u>

LIABILITIES

Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	\$ -
Accrued Payroll and Withholdings Payable	821
Accrued Expenses	-
Unearned Revenue	<u>21,100</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>21,921</u>
Total Liabilities	21,921

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted :	
Unrestricted	79,416
Temporarily Restricted	9,073
Permanently Restricted	-
Total Net Assets	<u>88,489</u>
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	<u><u>\$ 110,410</u></u>

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Higgins Lake Property Owners Association
12/31/2021
Statement of Income
Preliminary

INCOME:	Members @	Actual	Budget	Variance Fav/(Unfav)
Members' Dues	531 \$	100 \$ 53,100	\$ 52,000	\$ 1,100
Directory Advertisements		\$ 7,675	\$ 7,000	\$ 675
Map Sales		\$ 1,700	\$ 700	\$ 1,000
Note Card Sales		\$ 750		
Legal Fund Contrib's (Restricted)		\$ 14,760	\$ 2,000	\$ 12,760
Environmental Fund Contrib's - (Restricted)		\$ 13,185	\$ 32,500	\$ (19,315)
General/Lobbyist Fund Contrib's (Non-Restricted)		\$ 6,835	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,335
Interest/Miscellaneous Income		\$ 8	\$ -	\$ 8
TOTAL INCOME		\$ 98,013	\$ 97,700	\$ 313
 EXPENSES:				
Contract Services				
Accounting Fees		\$ 4,850	\$ 5,500	\$ 650
Legal Expenses		\$ 10,272	\$ 5,000	\$ (5,272)
Lobbyist - PAA		\$ 9,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 3,000
		<u>\$ 24,122</u>	<u>\$ 22,500</u>	<u>\$ (1,622)</u>
Facilities and Equipment				
Property Insurance		\$ -		
Office Rent		\$ 2,600	\$ 2,400	\$ (200)
		<u>\$ 2,600</u>	<u>\$ 2,400</u>	<u>\$ (200)</u>
Memberships				
Huron Pines		\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ -
Chamber of Commerce		\$ 150	\$ -	\$ (150)
Mi Lakes and Streams		\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ -
Michigan Riparian		\$ 84	\$ 60	\$ (24)
Muskegon Watershed		\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ -
Mi Waterfront Alliance		\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ -
		<u>\$ 964</u>	<u>\$ 790</u>	<u>\$ (174)</u>
Misc Expense				
Miscellaneous		\$ 25	\$ -	\$ (25)
Marine Patrol Support & Rosc Foundation		\$ 820	\$ 1,100	\$ 280
		<u>\$ 845</u>	<u>\$ 1,100</u>	<u>\$ 255</u>
Operating Expenses				
Bank Service Charges		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Subscriptions, Books, Advertising		\$ -	\$ 100	\$ 100
Insurance		\$ 1,171	\$ 1,200	\$ 29
Postage, Mailing Service		\$ 2,282	\$ 1,900	\$ (382)
Printing and Copying		\$ 4,832	\$ 4,500	\$ (332)
Supplies		\$ 1,889	\$ 900	\$ (989)
Telephone and Internet		\$ 2,155	\$ 2,400	\$ 245
Web Site Maintenance		\$ 498	\$ 500	\$ 2
		<u>\$ 12,827</u>	<u>\$ 11,500</u>	<u>\$ (1,327)</u>
Payroll Expenses				
Salaries and Wages		\$ 11,627	\$ 12,000	\$ 373
Payroll Taxes		\$ 933	\$ 900	\$ (33)
Workers Comp		\$ 27	\$ 50	\$ 23
		<u>\$ 12,587</u>	<u>\$ 12,950</u>	<u>\$ 363</u>
Travel and Meetings				
Confernces, Conventions, Meetings		\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Other				
Environmental Expenses		\$ 23,681	\$ 37,500	\$ 13,819
990 Taxes		\$ -	\$ 300	\$ 300
Michigan Sales & Use Tax		\$ -	\$ 100	\$ 100
		<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 100</u>	<u>\$ 100</u>
TOTAL EXPENSE		\$ 77,626	\$ 90,140	\$ 12,514
				<u>\$ -</u>
NET INCOME		\$ 20,387	\$ 7,560	\$ 12,827

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